ID: 88072390

Vol. 1, No. 8

HD
241
.R37
v.1
no.08

T
H R
E A R
N I
G D
E E
R

Washington, D. C.
June 26, 1939.

OFFICE VISITORS:

Mr. L. S. Cory, of the Utah Construction Company, Ogden, Utah, called at the office last week on business matters.

Liaison officers H. E. French, J. C. Roak, and Kenneth Wolfe, from the Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Corps Areas were in the office last week. Dep Falck and Bud Molohon took them to the ball game on Saturday and Washington defeated Detroit. It seems that Mr. Falck has not seen Washington lose a game in almost two years and, in view of the Nat's present state, it is suggested that they place him on the pay roll.

* * * g o s s i p * * *

MEETINGS ATTENDED:

During Friday to Sunday of last week end, Mr. Rutledge attended a meeting of the Land Committee of the National Resources Committee hold at Mount Weather, a point in Virginia about 60 miles west of Washington. William I. Myers, Chairman of the Committee, presided and others present included M. S. Eisenhower of Agriculture, Tom Havell of Interior, and Gilbert White, of the National Resources Committee. The talk during the three days covered a wide range of subjects including a discussion of studies in the Matanuska Valley, Alaska; the southern Florida situation; the lower Mississippi backwater lands; a report on southern forests. The question of a report on land classification received a lot of attention. Mr. Rutledge reports that it was a very pleasant as well as profitable meeting.

Messrs. Molohon and Heltman have been attending meetings in Washington regarding the transfer of CCC to the new Federal Security Agency.

* * * g o s s i p * * *

ARRIVALS

Archie Ryan returned to Washington on June 22 after a field trip to Idaho, Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico. Mr. Ryan reports that while in Colorado he attended a meeting of the Western Slope Cattlemen's Association

where he made a very wonderful speech that knocked them for a row of concrete pagodas. In New Mexico he attended a meeting of the Interdepartmental Rio Grande Board at Jemez Springs, and reports that the fishing was good but he was too busy to fish.

Verna Anderes arrived in Washington on June 26 on a detail pending transfer. She will serve as secretary to Mr. Molohon, Chief of Range Improvements and Maintenance.

* * * g o s s i p * * *

DEPARTURES:

Mr. Terrett left Saturday for approximately a month's inspection of the Division activities in Montana.

The chief clerks' conference was concluded on Thursday and most of them departed for their homes that evening. Some of the boys went home via the New York Worlds' Fair.

* * * g o s s i p * * *

TRUCKS

Invitations to bid are being prepared for the procurement of trucks to permit replacement of cars of ancient and uncertain vintage.

* * * g o s s i p * * *

LOST!

Somewhere between Chesapeake Bay and the Department of the Interior--one pair of swimming trunks and one high hat. Wonder whose?

* * * g o s s i p * * *

NEW TRAVELING MAN:

E. Edward Stephens, of California, has been appointed as one of our traveling field auditors. Mr. Stephens came to the Division by transfer from the Farm Credit Administration and it is expected that he will make a field trip soon so you will all have a chance to get acquainted with him.

* * * g o s s i p * * *

FROM THE WASHINGTON POST (June 20):

The oldest member of the House of Representatives--Representative Edward T. Taylor (Democrat), of Colorado, yesterday received the tribute of

his fellow colleagues on his eighty-first birthday. Representative Woodrum (Democrat), of Virginia, told the House that Taylor, chairman of the powerful House Appropriations Committee, is still "strong, vigorous, and virile, and his blood still runs warm for this country." After the House had applauded him, the aged legislator said: "We have a great country. We should be proud of it, and do our best to serve it." Taylor was born June 19, 1858, at Metamora, Illinois. He has served in the House for 30 years.

* * * g o s s i p * * *

CONVALESCING:

Mrs. J. H. Leech is still in the Uniontown, Pennsylvania, hospital as a result of the accident in which the car in which she was riding was involved on June 3. On June 16 it was necessary for an operation to be performed in order to put her patella together again. It was broken into five parts. The doctor has informed Mr. Leech that she is getting along satisfactorily and the cure will be a matter of time and rest from now on. The others in the accident were not seriously injured and are recovering from their bruises, sprains, et cetera.

* * * g o s s i p * * *

NYA-CLERICAL ASSISTANCE:

The matter of acquiring the assistance of young people through the National Youth Association has been taken up with the regional headquarters of that organization in Washington, and approval has been granted for the Division of Grazing to utilize the service in the manner prescribed by the Association. The National Youth Association is a highly decentralized organization. The State supervisors have wide discretionary power in matters pertaining to the assignment of young people. All questions regarding the service and the obtaining of clerical assistance should be taken up by regional graziers direct with the State representative of the Association. A report of any actions along this line is to be furnished to the Washington office for record purposes.

There are some important requirements which must observed. It is a requirement of the service that the young people be assigned to worthwhile duties and employed upon work which will train them for the holding of jobs or the performing of duties which might make them self-supporting insofar as possible. The service is for emergency purposes only and is not to be used in lieu of permanent employees or for undue periods of time. The observance of these requirements in the Division of Grazing cannot be overemphasized.

Services of the young people should not be requested without some thought previously having been given to specific assignments and office

supervision in order that they also may obtain some benefit from the arrangement.

The spirit of the NYA to help young people get oriented toward the proper outlook in life and started on worthwhile employment should be maintained in all contacts and relations with them.

* * * g o s s i p * * *

"GROWING UP"

The Division of Grazing, a five year old infant, ordered another pair of long pants by discarding an inadequate administrative and accounting set up in favor of the most thorough auditing and accounting methods that could be devised. From the nine Division of Grazing regions came the principal clerks of the regional offices to confer in Washington from June 12 to 22 with officials of the General Accounting Office and with the accounting employees of the Washington office.

The revised procedures involved more changes than the clerks had anticipated, but the preliminary drafts of the new accounting handbook proved to be an effective guide in grasping the principles and details of the new functions. In taking over from the General Land Office the responsibility for the collection and accountability of grazing fees, the Division of Grazing does not take over an old system, but a brand-new, self-checking, and foolproof method of fee accounting, approved by the General Accounting Office, taking full advantage of the mechanical accuracies of bookkeeping machines. This procedure establishes the District Office as a functioning auxiliary of the regional office. The district also becomes the unit in the accounting for the regular salaries and expense appropriations, while in the CCC accounting the unit remains the individual camp.

The transfer of accounting and collection functions from the General Land Office and from the regional accounting offices into the regional grazier's office, places under the direct control of each principal clerk every instrument of disbursement and collection, besides the purchasing, property, and project accountability already in his hands. The Washington conference was merely the initial step in insuring a great degree of accuracy in handling all of these transactions, as the principal clerks in turn must impart this knowledge to their own forces in the field.

Every principal clerk actively participated in the discussions, weighing each detail carefully in the balance, and, although there are some minor unperfected details, everyone felt that he would be stepping on July 1, 1939, into one of the soundest accounting schemes ever devised for a Government bureau.

James R. Kenny, who wrote most of the new handbook, was the daily reader, elucidator, commentator, and professor, but backing him up were two siege guns of the General Accounting Office, Messrs. Huey and Boone.

Aside from the primary purposes of the conference, the principal clerks were given behind-the-scenes insights into the functions of the Washington office, and, between meetings the visiting clerks were to be found in the accounts, personnel, property, or files section. The ladies of the Washington staff were particularly attentive to the Western cowboys and made them feel very much at home. In parting, each regional office clerk expressed his appreciation to every member of the Washington force for the friendly courtesies extended to him. These intimate contacts with Director Rutledge down the line to every clerk were instrumental in uniting the eastern and western forces of the Division of Grazing.

* * * g o s s i p * * *

PERSONNEL PERSONALITIES

The visiting chief clerks, as guests of honor of the personnel section of the Washington office, were given a rip-snortin' welcome in ye good olde grazing style at one of Washington's air-cooled hot night spots, after a warming up cocktail party at the ranch of John Hanna. The pre-dinner "warm-up" was kept moving by the sterling get-acquainted activities of the Misses Coleman, Hamilton, Brewer, Hartman, Kantor and McManus. "Delegate" Hamilton especially shone in this respect, and plenty of parlor humor was supplied by that eminent joke artist, "Bustle" Busselle.

From El Rancho Hanna the party moved onto the Chinese setting of the Lotus Club where a curious blend of Eastern accents, Southern sounds and Western drawls permeated the air with harmonious renditions of "Home on the Range", "I'm an Old Cowhand", and other popular Western ditties, led by vocalist "Pete" Peterson, and by no means dampened by the sterling tenor of "Dick" Rutledge.

We don't know how seriously the cow-country is suffering from the "jitterbug" scourge, but we are certain that the guys and gals in Oregon's wide open spaces had better clear the floor for Jimmy Finch when he returns. The Washington office was not totally eclipsed by the field, however, for when Bill (Casanova) Phillips' personality got going it was something to marvel at (even by the Missus); the Howard Maces did an astounding job of shagging, and when it comes to the gentle art of "swing", we refer you to Jean McManus.

There were no casualties, but it is reliably reported that a piercing "yippee" emitted from the lusty lungs of "Two-Gun" Fitzgerald at 2 A.M. almost induced heart failure among several innocent bystanders.

The list of guests was headed by the boss himself. Director Dick Rutledge, and, as always, his jovial and friendly personality contributed no little to the success of the party.

Judging by the exuberant enthusiasm displayed by one and all, we believe this party will long be remembered as one of the highlights of the visit of the chief clerks to Washington.